AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-3.   (Cancelled)

4.   (Currently Amended) A method ~~for controlling a video image compression system~~ comprising:

acquiring a compression time associated with compressing a video frame of raw video image data using a processor; and

~~storing compressed video image data for said video frame in a buffer, said stored compressed video image data to be transmitted over a transmission medium;~~

determining whether the processor is limited in its ability to compress video image data based on whether a difference between a the compression time ~~for a current frame~~ and a target frame period exceeds a threshold amount, to facilitate adjusting of ~~the~~ a target frame rate based at least in part on the compression time~~;~~

~~adjusting a target frame rate based on the compress time~~.

5.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~4~~ 34 wherein said target frame rate is adjusted to a value equal to a frame rate of a video capture device divided by an integer divisor.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the frame rate of the video capture device is 30 frames per second and the integer divisor has a value between 1 and 30.

7-12.   (Cancelled)

13.   (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture~~a set of instructions residing in~~ comprising:

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_____ a storage medium having stored thereon a plurality of computer executable instructions that, when executed, causes ~~capable of being executed by a processor to implement a method for controlling~~ a video image compression system~~, the method comprising to~~:

acquire a compression time associated with compressing a video frame of raw video image data using a processor, ~~and~~;

~~storing compressed video image data for said video frame in a buffer, said stored compressed video image data to be transmitted over a transmission medium;~~

~~determining~~ determine whether the processor is limited in its ability to compress video image data based on whether a difference between ~~a~~ the compress~~ion~~ time ~~for a current frame~~ and a target frame period exceeds a threshold amount, to facilitate adjusting of a target frame rate based at least in part on the compression time.~~;~~

~~adjusting a target frame rate based on the compress time.~~

14.   (Currently Amended) The ~~set of instructions~~ article of claim ~~13~~ 36, wherein said target frame rate is to be adjusted to a value equal to a frame rate of a video capture device divided by an integer divisor.

15.   (Currently Amended) The ~~set of instructions~~ article of claim 14 wherein the frame rate of the video capture device is 30 frames per second and the integer divisor has a value between 1 and 30.

16-21. (Cancelled)

22.   (Currently Amended) A video image compression system comprising:
a processor;
a bit rate controller to compress a video frame of raw video image data using said processor; and

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a video controller coupled to said bit rate controller to determine ~~whether the processor is limited in its ability to compress video image data~~ a usage of the processor based on whether a difference between a compression time for a current frame and a target frame period exceeds a threshold amount, ~~to facilitate adjusting of a target frame rate based at least in part on the compression time~~ and reset a target frame rate based on the compress time.

23.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~22~~ 37 wherein said bit rate controller is configured to adjust said target frame rate to a value equal to a frame rate of a video capture device divided by an integer divisor.

24.   (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein the frame rate of the video capture device is 30 frames per second and the integer divisor has a value between 1 and 30.

25-27. (Cancelled).

28.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the threshold amount corresponds to a predetermined portion of the target frame period.

29.   (Currently Amended) The ~~set of instructions~~ article of claim 13, wherein the threshold amount corresponds to a predetermined portion of the target frame period.

30.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22, wherein the threshold amount corresponds to a predetermined portion of the target frame period.

31.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 22, further comprising a compressor including said bit rate controller, said compressor further ~~comprising:~~ including:
        a first queue to store the raw video image data;
        a codec coupled to the first queue to compress the raw video image data; and
        a second queue coupled to the codec to store the compressed video image data.

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32.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31, wherein the processor is to control a compression rate of the codec.

33.   (New) The method of claim 4, further comprising storing compressed video image data for said video frame in a buffer, said stored compressed video image data to be transmitted over a transmission medium.

34.   (New) The method of claim 4, further comprising adjusting the target frame rate based at least in part on the compression time.

35.   (New) The article of claim 13, wherein the instructions, when executed, further cause a video image compression system to store compressed video image data for said video frame in a buffer, said stored compressed video image data to be transmitted over a transmission medium.

36.   (New) The article of claim 13, wherein the instructions, when executed, further cause a video image compression system to adjust the target frame rate based at least in part on the compression time.

37.   (New) The system of claim 22, wherein said bit rate controller is further to adjust said target frame rate based at least in part on the compression time.

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